

Police turn squad into race car for charity

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The Village recently donated a squad car to the Tinley Park Police Department's Special Olympics team for use in the upcoming Special Olympics Five O at the Dirty O fundraiser race. The squad is being transformed into a race car and will be driven by Det. Fred Mondt in the race, which takes place at 7:15 p.m. Saturday, July 20 at Route 66 Raceway in Joliet. This is the first year that Tinley Park has participated in the annual event.

After the race is over, the car will make special appearances at Village events during the off season.

"This has been a fun and exciting journey, and we hope to continue it into the future," Sgt. Darren Persha said.

Individual or private donations are still being sought to help support the race team. Donations will go directly to Special Olympics Illinois to benefit its athletes.

"The Tinley Park Police Department is consistently one of the top fundraising departments in the State of Illinois for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, and we hope to carry on that honor," Persha said. "With your help we can make that happen!"

Please visit the Special Olympics Illinois website to donate or for more information.